March 31, 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. LEE RANKIN, General Counsel

FROM: Norman Redlich and Howard P. Willens

RE: Proposed Outline of Final Report

Attached is a proposed outline of the final report of this Commission which we suggest offers a basis for further discussion among the staff and members of the Commission.

Attachment.

PROPOSED OUTLINE OF REPORT

I. Introduction and Statement of Objectives

(The report should start with a brief statement setting forth the origin of the Commission and its objectives and standards. It is important to clarify the Commission's position as a fact-finding body and to indicate wherein our findings differ from a judicial determination of criminal guilt.)

II. Brief Summary of Major Conclusions

(The purpose of this section is to provide the reader with a short statement of our major conclusions without having to read through the entire document.)

A. Basic Facts Concerning Assassination of President Kennedy and Shooting of Officer Tippit

B. Identity of the Assassin

C. Conclusions Concerning Motive

D. Ruby's Killing of Oswald and Conclusion as to Motive

E. Recommendations in the Area of Presidential Protection

III. The Assassination - Basic Facts

A. Arrival in Dallas

B. Physical Setting

1. Description of Motorcade

2. Description of Area where Shooting Occurred

C. Shooting

1. Number of Shots

2. Method Effect of Each Shot

3. Point from which Shots Fired

4. Statistical Data

   a. Elapsed time of shooting

   b. Distance traveled by Presidential car

   c. Speed of car

   d. Distance traveled by each bullet

5. Events Immediately Following Shooting

   a. Reaction of Secret Service personnel

   b. Trip to Parkland

   c. Events in Parkland

   d. Trip to Love Field

   e. Return to Washington

IV. Lee Harvey Oswald as the Assassin

(This section should state the facts which lead to the conclusion that Oswald pulled the trigger and should also indicate the elements in the case which have either not been proven or are based on circumstantial testimony. Each of the facts listed below should be reviewed in that light.)

A. Identification of Rifle as Murder Weapon

   1. Ballistics

   2. Capability of Rifle

B. Lee Harvey Oswald's Ownership of Rifle

C. Evidence of Oswald Carrying Weapon to Texas School Book Depository

D. Source of Rifle

   1. Testimony of eyewitnesses and employees on Fifth Floor

   2. Medical testimony

   3. Location of rifle and cartridge cases

E. Evidence Placing Lee Harvey Oswald on Sixth Floor

1. Access to Floor

2. Palm Prints on Carton

3. Print on Paper Bag

F. Eyewitness Identification of Oswald Shooting Rifle

G. Probative Significance of Oswald's Actions After Assassination

1. Encounter with Baker and Truly

2. Departure from Building

3. Bus and Taxi Ride

4. Visit to Rooming House

5. Murder of Tippit

6. Arrest in Texas Theater

H. Police Interrogation of Oswald

I. Prior Similar Acts

1. General Walker Shooting

2. Mexico Incident

J. Oswald's Prior Experience with Weapons

K. Probative Value of other Oswald Acts prior to Assassination

1. Securing a Job in Texas School Book Depository

2. Return to Irving on November 21

3. Communications with Hidell

4. Failure to Take Available Money

L. Conclusion

V. Possible Conspiratorial Role

A. Evidence of Association as Basis of Accusation

B. Evidence of Any Foreign Conspiracy

1. Soviet plot

2. Cuban plot

C. Evidence of Any Domestic Conspiracy

1. Right-wing groups

2. Leftist groups

3. Underworld

VI. Possible Personal Motive

A. Personal Animosity toward Kennedy or Connally

B. Political Beliefs of Lee Harvey Oswald

C. Psychological and Psychiatric

VII. Killing of Oswald by Ruby

A. Facts of the Killing

1. Actions of Ruby starting with November 22

2. Description of Events on November 24

B. Possible Conspiratorial Motive

1. Conspiracy with Dallas Police Department

2. Conspiracy with those Responsible for Assassination of President Kennedy

C. Other Possible Motives

1. Ruby as Double-Agent Patriot, Hero, Important Man

2. Possibility of Ruby being Mentally Ill

VIII. Presidential Protection

A. Description and Evaluation of Secret Service Protective Measures with Regard to Dallas Trip

B. Recommendations

1. Enactment of Federal Legislation making Assassination an Offense

2. Jurisdiction of Investigative Agencies

3. Review and Coordination of Intelligence Data

4. Deployment of Secret Service Personnel

5. Other

[illegible] DESIGNATED TO FINAL REPORT

(The following list assumes that the entire transcript of testimony before the Commission and accompanying exhibits are published simultaneously with the Final Report of the Commission. If this is not the case, then the list set forth below would have to be amended to include excerpts of the testimony and particular Commission exhibits.)

A. Narrative Statement of Organization and Methods of Investigation

B. Detailed Facts About President's Trip up to Assassination (including any excerpts from Secret Service Report believed appropriate)

C. Original Documents Related to Federal Conduct of Presidential Security

1. Reports of Federal Elected Officials

2. Autopsy Report

D. Reports of Federal Bureau of Investigation and Secret Service on Conduct of President's Car at Site of Death

E. Documents and Charts Pertaining to Ballistics and Other Scientific Examinations

F. Documents Associated with Oswald's Ownership of Rifle

G. Dallas Police Important Reports in Investigation of Oswald

H. Detailed Biography of Lee Harvey Oswald (including military, education, family relationships, military career, life in Russia, marriage, return to United States, life in United States, trip to Mexico, etc.)

I. Oswald's Relationship with United States Government Agencies

J. Selected Political Writings of Lee Harvey Oswald

K. Charts and Statements of Dallas Police Department Officials Relating to Assembly of Oswald

L. Autopsy of Lee Harvey Oswald

M. Detailed Biography of Jack Ruby

N. Discussion of Likely Conducted Searches